

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Claims 1-47 are pending in the instant application. Applicants hereby elect, without traverse, to prosecute in this application the subject matter of Group I, claims 1-6, 8-12, 32, 33 and 39 drawn to a nucleic acid, vector, host cell, method of making a polypeptide, and diagnostic composition comprising the nucleic acid, classified in class 435, subclass 325. Applicants hereby cancel the non-elected claims 7, 13-31, 34-38, and 40-47. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute any subject matter not examined here in one or more divisional application(s).

Early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,


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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on July 26, 2004.

Signature: 

Name: Melissa Leck